

News Release



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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New Sound Standards at Grand Prix Track at Hollister Hills State Vehicular Recreation Area

HOLLISTER – In an effort to reduce noise levels and ensure future racing, California State Parks today announced that beginning January 1, all off-road vehicles using the Hollister Hills Grand Prix Track at Hollister Hills State Vehicular Recreation Area (SVRA) will be required to meet a 99-decibel noise limit, a major change because sound limits had been exempt in closed-course competition.

Hollister Hills, located six miles south of Hollister via Cienega Road, will become the first SVRA to require a sound testing limit on a competition track.

Jack Azevedo, owner of AMP Racing, said responsible management is critical to maintaining and expanding off-road opportunities in California. "The OHV Stakeholders Group, made up of off-road users, manufacturers, land managers, environmentalists and other interested parties, understands the importance of these types of issues and is addressing them," he said.

Later this month, Azevedo is assisting in a pilot program at Hollister Hills SVRA that will help determine how the number of off-road vehicles affect the noise level at the track. The testing will be from 1 p.m. to 5 p.m. on Wednesday, November 19. Riders whose vehicles meet the 99-decibel limit will be able to ride for free. All bikes must be tested prior to arrival. Testing is available at Hollister Hills on weekends and holidays. The park phone number is (831) 637-3874.

(more)

The Grand Prix Motocross Track at Hollister Hills is open only for promoter-operated racing, training or practice events.

The change in noise standards at Hollister Hills is related to an environmental impact report commissioned for new property purchased for the expansion of the off-highway park. The EIR was challenged in a lawsuit that addressed attendance, noise and dust. The lawsuit was settled with the agreement that Hollister Hills, among other things, would monitor noise and dust to insure that the limits set forth in the EIR would be enforced.

The park has been monitoring noise at the boundaries of the new property for more than a year. All locations have so far met compliance with the exception of a noise receptor site located on the southeast boundary of the park near the Grand Prix track.

The sound testing at Grand Prix is designed to enable the popular track to continue to be used for events and motocross practices.

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